

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

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When request 514 is received by the web server 503, the request can be passed to proxy data exchange filter software that can extract the added fields 304-305 from the request 514, decrypt the session key and the user profile information contained in the fields 304-305 and make the user profile information available to web server applications. The user profile information may be made available to web server applications by setting HTTP environment variables, by storing it in a database, by placing it in shared memory, and/or using other data exchange techniques. The proxy data exchange filter software may then pass the request 514 back to the web server for further processing and for generation of a response 515.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 13-19 and 31 as follows.

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cont
13. A data transfer method performed at an information server, the method comprising:
receiving an augmented data request including encrypted user profile information added
by a proxy server;

extracting the encrypted user profile information added to the data request by the proxy
server;

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using the extracted profile information to generate a response; and
sending the response to the proxy server.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein using the extracted user profile information to
generate a response comprises providing the extracted user profile information to a web
application and generating the response by processing the web application.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein providing the extracted user profile information
comprises setting HTTP environment variables at a web server and wherein the web application
comprises a common gateway interface script.

16. The method of claim 13 further comprising storing the extracted user profile information at the information server and associating a reference token with the stored user profile information, and wherein the response further comprises the reference token.

17. The method of claim 16 further comprising:
receiving from the proxy server a second data request comprising the reference token;
extracting the reference token from the second data request;
accessing the stored user profile information based on the reference token; and
using the stored user profile information to generate a response to the second data request.

18. The method of claim 13 wherein extracting the user profile information comprises decrypting the user profile information.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the data request further comprises a session key added to the data request by the proxy server and wherein decrypting the user profile information comprises using the session key to decrypt the user profile information.

31. An information server comprising:
a network interface operatively coupling the information server to a target server; and
a processor operatively coupled to the network interface and to a memory comprising executable instructions for causing the processor to receive a data request from the proxy server, decrypt user profile information added to the data request by the target server; and use the decrypted user profile information to generate a response to the data request.

Please add the following new claims 33-42.

--33. A method performed at a proxy server, the method comprising:
receiving a request from a client;
determining destination information associated with the request;

determining a target server associated with the destination information should receive user profile information;

augmenting the request by adding encrypted user profile information; and
sending the augmented request to the target server.

34. The method of claim 33 further comprising:

determining a valid public key for the target server;
encrypting a session key using the public key; and
augmenting the request by adding the encrypted session key

35. The method of claim 34 further comprising:

determining a valid public key for the target server;
encrypting a session key information using the public key;
encrypting the user profile information using the encrypted session key; and
augmenting the request by adding the public key, encrypted session key, and encrypted user profile information to the request

36. The method of claim 33 wherein determining the target server should receive user profile information includes querying a database associated with the proxy server to determine if the target server should receive user profile information.

37. The method of claim 33 further comprising receiving a token from the target server and providing the token with other requests associated with the user profile that are directed to the target server.

38. A system comprising:

a proxy server to:

receive a request from a client;

determine a destination information associated with the request;

determine a target server associated with information should receive user profile information; and

augment the request by adding encrypted user profile information; and
to send the augmented request to the target server.

39. The system of claim 38 wherein the proxy server is configured to:
determine a valid public key for the target server;
encrypt a session key information using the public key; and
augment the request by adding the encrypted session key.

40. The system of claim 38 wherein the proxy server is configured to:
determine a valid public key for the target server;
encrypt a session key information using the public key;
encrypt the user profile information using the encrypted session key;
augment the request by adding the public key, encrypted session key, and encrypted user profile information to the request.

41. The system of claim 40 wherein the proxy server is configured to:
determine the target server should receive user profile information includes querying a database associated with the proxy server to determine if the target server should receive user profile information.

42. The system of claim 41 further comprising a target server wherein the target server is configured to:

store the user profile information;
send a token to the proxy server;
receive the token with a subsequent request; and
access the stored user profile information based on the token.